

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-15 DPW-01 DRC-01 AID-20

SSO-00 /177 W

----- 050341

R 090935Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7685

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 17627

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS

SUBJECT: ICCS: DELTA INCIDENT INVOLVING PA&E EMPLOYEES

REF : SAIGON 17563

1. EMBOFF CALLED OCTOBER CHAIRMAN ESZTERGALYOS OCTOBER 8 TO REQUEST ICCS APPROACH PRG TO SEEK ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING ELM AND TWO VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES. ESZTERGALYOS SAID HE WOULD SEEK APPOINTMENT FOR PA&E TO MAKE DIRECT APPROACH TO PRG IN CAMP DAVIS.

2. EMBOFF SAID THAT SINCE ELM WAS EMPLOYEE OF FIRM WITH WHOM ICCS HAD CONTRACT, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY FOR ICCS TO APPROACH PRG DIRECTLY ON BEHALF OF CONTRACTOR. ESZTERGALYOS DID NOT COMMENT DIRECTLY ON THIS SUGGESTION, BUT DID INDICATE HE HAD ALREADY TALKED WITH HUNG REPRESENTATIVE IN CAN THO AND GAVE IMPRESSION HE MIGHT ALREADY HAVE TALKED WITH PRG.

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3. SUBSEQUENTLY PA&E REPRESENTATIVE CALLED ESZTERGALYOS' OFFICE AND SUGGESTED APPOINTMENT TIME FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, ALSO INFORMING HIM THAT PA&E HAS SENT LETTER DATED OCTOBER 8 TO ESZTERGALYOS WITH COPIES TO ALL DELS, REQUESTING ICCS INTERVENE WITH TWO SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES TO OBTAIN RELEASE THREE EMPLOYEES. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:

QTE DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR:

AS YOU KNOW, THE NATURE OF OUR SUPPORT TO THE ICCS REQUIRES PAE EMPLOYEES TO TRAVEL FREQUENTLY BETWEEN REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND TEAM SITES THUS EXPOSING THEM TO THE NORMAL HAZARDS OF ROAD TRAVEL AND ALSO EXPOSES THEM TO ANY SITUATION THEY MAY HAPPEN UPON. OUR EMPLOYEES ASSIGNED TO ICCS SUPPORT ALWAYS TRAVEL IN VEHICLES BEARING ICCS MARKINGS TO PRECLUDE ANY MISTAKE IN IDENTIFICATION AND SINCE THE CEASE FIRE NO HARM HAS COME TO ANY OF OUR EMPLOYEES EXCEPT, POSSIBLY, AS A RESULT OF THE INCIDENT DESCRIBED BELOW.

AT ABOUT 2010 HOURS, 6 OCTOBER 1973, ONE AMERICAN AND TWO VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES OF PAE, IDENTIFIED AS MR. HOMER L. ELM, AMERICAN CITIZEN, MR. NGUYEN VAN NHIEU, ID #00675131 AND MR. TRAN KIM MON, ID #02605096, BOTH VIETNAMESE CITIZENS, WERE TRAVELLING BETWEEN QUAN LONG ICCS TEAM SITE AND KHANH HUNG ICCS TEAM SITE, WHEN AT A POINT ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY QL-4, APPROXIMATELY 40 KM SOUTH OF KHANH HUNG (SOC TRANG) NEAR THE VILLAGE OF BAC LIEU, THEIR ICCS MARKED VEHICLE REPORTEDLY CAME UNDER INTENSE GROUND FIRE FROM AN UNKNOWN FORCE. LOCAL RESIDENTS IN THE AREA REPORT THAT THE THREE MEN WERE REMOVED FROM THEIR VEHICLE BY PERSONS UNKNOWN AND NO TRACE CAN BE FOUND OF THEM BY LOCAL SOUTH VIETNAM AUTHORITIES WHO RESPONDED TO THE SITE OF THE INCIDENT. THE VEHICLE HAS BEEN RECOVERED IN DAMAGED CONDITION APPARENTLY CAUSED BY WEAPONS. I THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST, YOUR EXCELLENCY, THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION INTERVENE WITH THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES OF THE TWO SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES OF THE AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING PEACE IN VIETNAM TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF THESE THREE NON-COMBATANT EMPLOYEES OF THE PAE PROJECT IN SUPPORT OF THE ICCS, IN THE EVENT THAT THEY ARE BEING DETAINED BY EITHER OF THOSE PARTIES.

SINCERELY YOURS.

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SIGNED
LANDIS W. HICKS
GENERAL MANAGER

UNQTE
MARTIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL, DETENTION, TRUCE OBSERVERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON17627
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS MARTIN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731043/aaaabfpx.tel
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Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by willialc>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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To: STATE
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